










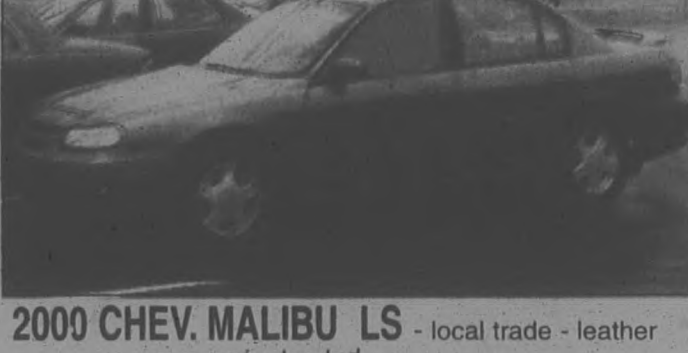






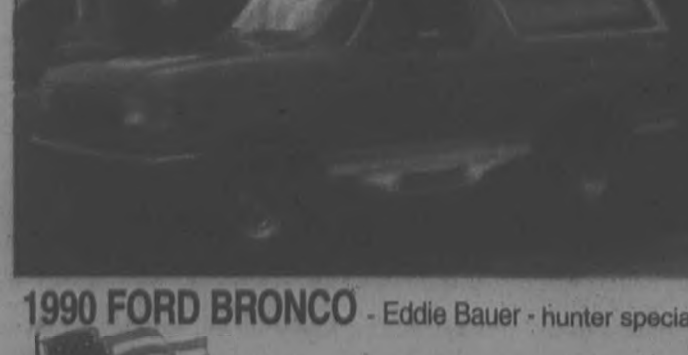
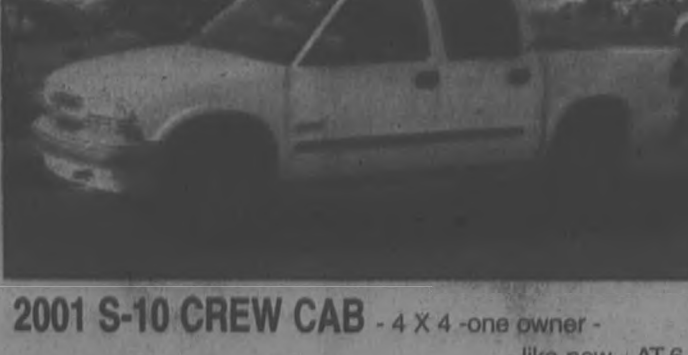
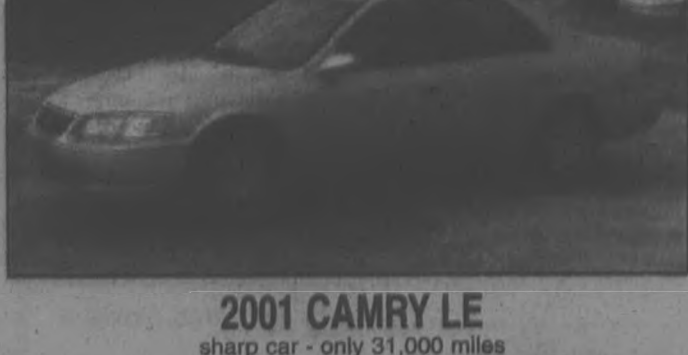


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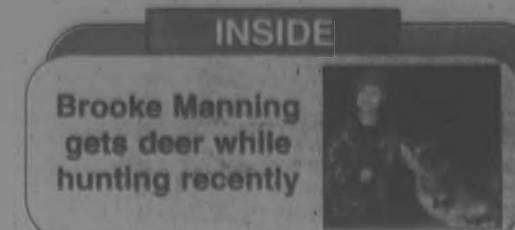
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# The Elba Clipper

Volume 106, Number 30

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, January 9, 2003

1 Section, 12 Pages

Without District Four council member

## New Brockton Council depending on attendance

by Linda Hodge, Editor

During the regular monthly meeting Monday evening, Jan. 6, New Brockton Town Council members learned that being absent is not an option right now.

Mayor Charles Cole informed council members of the importance of their continued attendance at meetings due to the resignation of former council member Ricky Strickland on Monday, Nov. 4.

Strickland submitted his resignation from the District Four seat in November citing two main reasons. He said he was in the process of moving out of the town limits and his job responsibilities had increased.

At that point, the town council began its search for Strickland's replacement. However, two months later, Cole told the council members Monday evening that no one had come forward to fill the vacancy.

Since Strickland's departure,

the council has been looking for a volunteer from the district four area of New Brockton to step forward and agree to feel the void, but Cole said that has not happened. He added that he has personally spoken with several residents from the area, but no one wants to serve as a council person at this time.

Therefore, in regards to what to do next, Cole said town clerk A n n e t t e Williams had spoken with the municipality league. He said the league representatives indicated that the council does not have to have a current elected term should all other council members be present for the meetings or those meetings would be canceled.

"If two names come forward at a later date, we will send them to the governor for him to appoint someone," Cole said.

As for the current situation, the mayor said the citizens of district four should not feel as though they have no representation. He said any citizen with a concern can call the town hall or any other council member to discuss the matter.

Also, any person from the district four area that might be interested in representing those citizens on the town council for the remainder of the current elected term should contact the New Brockton Town Hall at 894-5550 to find out what paperwork needs to be completed.

## New Brockton Town Council establishes due process procedures for law enforcement officers

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The New Brockton Town Council received an interesting update from the fire department Monday evening, Jan. 6, as the new fire chief explained a donation the department had received.

Fire Chief Greg Lee attended his first meeting as head of the department and had news of a monetary donation with specified plans.

Lee said the New Brockton Fire Department received \$35,000 for a brush truck and \$70,882 for a station to be built in the Clintonville area. He said this money was donated by a local citizen who expressed his desire for the station and truck to be placed in the Clintonville community to better serve the people of that area.

With the Clintonville area being a service area for the New Brockton Fire Department, Lee said this station would be a branch of the New Brockton Fire Department.

He added that the department has to account for every penny it spends on this project.

With no action required from the council on the matter, Lee said he simply wanted let the council know about the donation and the plans for the money. Council members thanked Lee for attending the meeting to let them know about the matter and asked that he keep them informed about fire department happenings so the town council can be more involved.

With the Alabama State Legislature previously mandating that law enforcement officers be entitled to a disciplinary due process hearing before

being terminated, the New Brockton Town Council set up some guidelines for such a procedure Monday evening when it passed a due process ordinance for law enforcement officers.

The ordinance explains what qualifies an employee to be considered a law enforcement officer, that a law enforcement officer of the Town of New Brockton is entitled to request a disciplinary hearing before being suspended or terminated and the procedures that shall govern the hearing if a law enforcement officer requests one.

Having already discussed the ordinance with the town's attorney, council member Ron McMonagle said he was ready to vote on the matter. Therefore, he made a motion to accept Ordinance No. 03-01 pertaining to due process for law enforcement officers. His motion received a second from council member Johnnie Herron and passed by a unanimous vote.

The council again found itself discussing the town's emergency medical services contract with Enterprise Rescue when Mayor Charles Cole said the agreement was up for renewal at \$1,500 per month. The county reimburses New Brockton for a portion of the \$1,500.

McMonagle asked if anyone knew why the contract is only for a six month term, and he indicated that he would like to see it locked in for a year instead of just six months.

The other council members and mayor all said they did not understand why the contract was for six months either except that Enterprise Rescue has preferred it that way in the past.

## Brundidge-Phenix City National Guard Unit receives mobilization orders

Gov. Don Siegelman and Maj. Gen. Mike Sumrall, the adjutant general of Alabama, announced Monday, Jan. 6, that another Alabama Army National Guard unit has received mobilization orders.

Approximately 145 personnel from the 900th Maintenance Company of Brundidge and Phenix City will be mobilized in the near future. They will take part in Operation Noble Eagle, performing homeland security missions at some location in the continental United States.

The date of the activation, departure from home station and where they will report for duty have not been announced at this

time. The initial call-up is for a period of up to 365 days.

"When our nation called upon these brave men and women in the dark days following Sept. 11," they proudly answered that call," Siegelman said. "Again today, Alabama service members stand ready to defend freedom and liberty as they fight the war on terrorism."

The activation of the 900th is part of the ongoing call-up of units for Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom. Since Sept. 11, 2001, more than 3,200 Alabama Army and Air Guard personnel have been called to active duty. More than 2,400 still remain on duty today.

With that, McMonagle made a motion that the town accept the agreement contingent upon extending the contract to a whole year at \$1,500 per month. If Enterprise Rescue will not agree to a whole year, the mayor has the council's approval to sign the agreement for the six month contract.

Herron provided a second to the motion which passed by a unanimous vote.

Also during the Monday meeting, council members considered an ordinance for burning; however, some felt the ordinance needs some more work on the wording before being passed. Therefore, McMonagle made a motion with a second from council member Vicky Harrison to table this ordinance until the working session to be discussed further. The motion passed unanimously.

In other business, the council: \* Approved a motion to extend the fundraiser meeting date from Jan. 23 to sometime in March. Herron said this will give everyone more time to recover from the holiday season and allow the committee to put together a more impressive presentation. A more specific date will be announced at a later time.

\* Approved a motion to pay the monthly bills totaling \$12,882.11.

Please See TOWN, Page 3

## Area Happenings

**THE COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION** will hold its regular monthly meeting Thursday, Jan. 9 (TONIGHT), at 6:30 p.m., at the board of education office (400 Reddoch Hill Rd., Elba).

**VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC. CHAPTER 373** will hold its regular monthly meeting Jan. 9 (TONIGHT), 6:30 p.m., at the Claychance Community House, which is located on highway 92 close to Providence Baptist Church.

**THE COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION** will hold its regular bimonthly meeting Monday, Jan. 13, at 9 a.m. in the community room at the county complex in New Brockton.

**A ZION CHAPEL FTD** meeting will be held Thursday, Jan. 16, at 6 p.m. at the high school auditorium.

**THE TOWN OF NEW BROCKTON** will observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, Jan. 20, with town officers being elected; however, the town will also hold several activities throughout the day in honor of Dr. King beginning at 9 a.m. at the bus stop to include a walk in remembrance from the stop to Peoples Temple Baptist Church. In case of inclement weather, all activities will be held at Peoples Temple Baptist Church.



**AFTERNOON COLLISION CLUTTERS INTERSECTION.** One Elba intersection became a dangerous spot last Thursday, Jan. 2, when two vehicles collided with one overturning in the roadway. It was approximately 2:40 p.m. last Thursday when the vehicles reached the point of impact at the intersection of Claxton Avenue and Simmons Street after one failed to stop for a red light. A 1995 Dodge Avenger, driven by Morgan Leigh Catrett, age 17, of Troy was traveling along Simmons St. while a 1984 Ford Ranger, driven by Nettie Hudson, age 72, of Elba was traveling on Claxton Ave. According to authorities, Catrett failed to stop at the red light and pulled into the path of Hudson. At that point, Hudson's vehicle struck the front of Catrett's vehicle which caused the truck Hudson was driving to begin turning sideways and eventually overturning. Officers with the Elba Police Department were dispatched to the scene, as well as units from Coffee County EMS and the Elba Fire Department. Although a passenger in the truck, Zachary Hudson, age 10, of Elba, was able to get out on his own, firefighters had to use the "jaws of life" to cut the cab of the truck so the driver could be removed. Both the younger and elder Hudson were transported to Elba General Hospital by units from Coffee County EMS; however, the injuries appeared to be only minor. Catrett escaped the collision without injury and was not transported to the hospital. Investigating the accident for the Elba Police Department were officers Michael Hines and Austin Redmon. Above, the area in which the truck traveled is evident through debris left on the roadway while emergency personnel work together to remove Hudson from the vehicle as quickly and safely as possible.

## Three Elba attorneys among those honored at reception

Three local attorneys were among those honored on December 19th at the reception held at Enterprise Courthouse. Judge Gary McAliley stated that the day was a "celebration to show appreciation for the lawyer's efforts and many years of service to ensure that the people of Coffee County had an opportunity at receiving justice."

Recognized were Jackson W. Stokes who will mark 50 years of law practice on January 25th when he also celebrates his 74th birthday, Garth Lindsey who has been practicing in Elba for 45 years and Robert E. Cannon who retired after 50 years from the law firm he established in 1952.

Judge McAliley presided over a short program in the courtroom where he introduced each of the honorees as well as local and county dignitaries. A seafood luncheon was then served to the large crowd of friends attending.

Recognized along with the Elba lawyers were attorneys Joe Cassidy Sr., Kenneth Fuller, Joe

Pittman and Alice Anderson all of Enterprise.



Garth Lindsey



Jackson W. Stokes



Robert E. Cannon







# CHURCH & AREA NEWS



**PINE VIEW FARMS, ELBA, ALA., SOLD** the champion female consignment at the 2002 Alabama Angus Association Fall Production Sale, November 9 in Cullman, Ala. P.V.M. Elvir Scotch Cap 010, a September 2000 daughter of Antkian Elvir 100 and her September 2000 heifer calf comprise the high selling female lot. Picture from left: Jesse Dempsey, Mitch Dempsey and Teresa Dempsey, Highland Home, Ala., buyers; Michael McCart, consignor; and Joey King, Alabama Angus Association vice president.

## C.C. Baptist Institute of Samford University to begin classes January 13

The Coffee County Baptist Institute of Samford University will begin classes on Monday, January 13, 2003 at 6:30 p.m. at the Coffee County Baptist Center at 603 E. McKinnon in New Brockton. The institute will be taught by Dr. John Granger and Growing in the Christian Life will be taught by

Rev. Leon Adams. Classes begin on January 13 and continue through May 31, 2003. Scholarships are available to those who qualify. For more information, contact James Preachers at 347-6717 or Samford University Extension at (205) 726-2731.

## Annual Matron Day to be held at Greater Springfield M.B. Church

Greater Springfield Missionary Baptist Church in New Brockton, to celebrate Annual Matron Day. The theme will be "Put on the Whole Armor of God." (Ephesians 6:11). This event will be held

Rev. Eugene Smith will be the guest speaker from Jackson Chapel Church of Christ, Capps, Alabama. Pastor at Greater Springfield Missionary Church is Harvey C. Williams.

## WORSHIP AT THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY!

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## Westside Baptist Church to hold Kids Crusade

Making a You-turn Kids Crusade, grades K - 6 will be held at Westside Baptist Church on January 18, 2003 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Fun, food, games, stories and more!

## The Elba Church of God tplan Benefit Barbecue January 11

The Elba Church of God is having a benefit barbecue Saturday January 11. Serving will start at 11:00 A.M. You may call in your order at 897-1593 or pick it up at the church. Proceeds go to community and church benevolence projects.

## PASTOR'S CORNER By Rev. W.K. Ellison

### Scheduled maintenance

**Mark 6:30-31**  
For 17 years, I had the privilege of working at Farley Nuclear Plant. One of the unique things about working there was that certain maintenance could not be performed during normal plant operations. They would have what they called "An Maintenance Outage" which would last anywhere from 31 to 60 or more days. During this time they would replace the "spent" fuel with new fuel and work on systems that were not accessible during routine operations. These outages were scheduled according to the life of the fuel. When the fuel began to expire, plans had to be made for its replacement. The objective of the outage was to do all the work in a timely manner. We said as quickly as you can so the plant could return to normal operation. The non-operational cost per day was at that time one million dollars per day.

In our lesson study for today, the apostles returned from their fields labor and gathered themselves unto Jesus. They told him all things, both what they had done, and what they had taught. Jesus, recognizing their weariness, said unto them, "Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place and rest a while." For there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat.

Doing God's work is very important, but to do it effectively we need periodic rest and renewal. The most active servants of Christ cannot always be upon the stretch of business. They, too, have bodies that require some relaxation, some breathing time. We shall not be able to serve God without ceasing day and night until we come to heaven where we shall never rest from praising him.

Notice, Christ called them apart, by themselves, to be alone with him in a desert or deserted place. This desert place was suited for quietness, rest and renewal. Many times we fail to realize that we, too, need quietness, rest and renewal. We can become so consumed with giving out or sharing with others that we fail to realize that our fuel is running out. We need a scheduled maintenance, total renewal for the body, spirit and soul.

No matter how successful we are in ministry, we must never forget that Jesus calls us apart to impart in us the things that's needed for continual ministry. These impartations cannot be received during normal operations. These are received during times of intimacy with Him and Him alone, our "Maintenance Outage." Notice He said, "And rest a while," signifying a short time because of the price of the souls to be won and the work to be accomplished.

Times are critical now. We must be refreshed both physically and spiritually to meet the challenges of the enemy. Believe it or not, the enemy knows how to take advantage of our tiredness. God wants us to be aware of what we are about to face. And being aware, He wants us to be equipped to defeat the purposes of the enemy. I would like to share with you an email I received from Ras Robinson's WHAT THE LORD IS SAYING TODAY.

"I am calling you in for some re-fitting and re-tooling that is now necessary. There is so much at stake in your assignment. Your road is about to become much more narrow. It will become as narrow as with the builder and reformer that you cannot even ride your animal through the pass. You will have to dismount and walk carefully. But you will make it. Flesh living cannot accompany you from this point. You must dismount. Take hope and heart as the way becomes even darker and the vision dims. For just ahead you are going to break out into the most awesome vista you have ever seen. Suddenly you will have revelation of my kingdom that you have not had. You will see its workings along with its glory. Oh what a day this will be. Be expectant now. I am calling you in for some re-fitting and re-tooling that is now necessary."

Saints, let God prepare you for where He is taking you. You have only a short time!

Eria

## ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA 897-2006

Scripture: Mark 1:1-27

\*\*Thinking of you, praying for you. The Berry, Barnes, and Bivins families, Annie Belcher, Annie M. Daniels, Edd Manning, Rev. N.L. Robinson, Rev. Charles Lane, Kary N. Horstead, Loe Henderson, Glen Kelley, Ruth Belcher, Judy Culver, Mary Elizabeth Coon, The Underwood and King families.

\*\*\*January Birthdays: Melissa Kelley - January 2; Tillman Lindsey - January 14. (In Memory Of) Kobie Belcher - January 16; Jana Kelley - January 16; Bobby Guiley - January 13.

\*\*\*Annual Usher's Anniversary of the Friendship Baptist Church in Glenwood, Ala. will be held Sunday, January 26, 2003 at 2:30 p.m.

Composed by Linda Lindsey Belcher

\*\*Mary Hunter Shahid, and Mary Jean Satic, and grandchildren of Enterprise, Ala. visited O.B. and Corine Daniels, C.W. Williams, and Eria Lindsey Belcher of Elba recently.

Happy New Year - 2003. Today is a good day; be grateful!

You are my protector, and my guide.

You are merciful and loving, my all

I'll never let go of your hand dear Lord

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# SPORTS

Views from....

## THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

The long holiday season is finally over, and maybe now that the girls are back in school we can get back on some kind of schedule at the Mularz house. The holidays began with two stays at the hospital as we fought pneumonia and the flu, but once everyone got well it was almost non-stop going as my folks made trips to buy late Christmas presents, hit the malls for the after-Christmas bargains or just rode the roads out of sheer boredom. Now that things are back to normal maybe Dad won't be the first one in bed and the first one up in the morning.

### SPORTING AROUND...

\*\*\* The Elba Tigers stumbled to a 1-6 record prior to the holiday break and will be looking to get back on track this week when they return to the court for a key area match-up against Abbeville and then host cross-county rival New Brockton next week. The Tigers owned early leads in all seven games and had chances to win six of their seven outings, but were unable to hold leads and at times seemed content just to watch as their opponents scored well late in the game. I agree that it is hard to win against the team on Elba's schedule when the Tigers start a sophomore and two freshmen, and the first man off the bench is also a freshman. However, the Tigers can't worry about how young they are and must simply go out and play hard for all four quarters and see what happens. Forget the record, just practice hard and play hard and things have to get better.

\*\*\* The Elba Lady Tigers had a long holiday break after winning the Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament and will carry a 3-4 record into the new year. The Lady Tigers have three quality guards that love to shoot behind the three-point line and a returnee inside that can dominate in the lane, but so far have seemed to lack the consistency needed to win night in and night out. One thing for certain, the Elba girls back down from no one and don't have a player in the line-up that is afraid to put up a shot. Win or lose the Lady Tigers are a fun bunch to watch, and the guess here is that the wins will come quite often from now on out.

\*\*\* The teams in the area will hit the court for the 2003 portion of the schedule this week and while no team in the area has really stepped up and taken charge, all the teams have positives to build on.

The Kinston Bulldogs dropped three straight games in the Red Level tourney and then dropped an area clash to Cottonwood last week, but the Bulldogs have as much talent as many teams around and need only to play well to put wins on the board. It seems that when the Bulldogs are hitting from the outside they don't score inside, and that when they bang it inside the outside game goes cold. When Kinston settles into a groove and gains confidence, the Bulldogs should get more than their share of wins. The Kinston Lady Bulldogs have improved by leaps and bounds in recent years and are once again a contender for the area title. The Lady Bulldogs have a young, but talented group of players that aren't afraid to mix it up against any team on their schedule, and while no wins will come easy, the wins should come.

The New Brockton Gamecocks have been hovering around the 500 mark all season, but appear ready to jump to that next level and should begin to add wins to their record as the season heads down the home stretch. The Gamecocks have a good mix of size, quickness and good shooters, and seem to lack only the confidence needed to win on a nightly basis. Once the Gamecocks realize how good they can be, the wins should begin to pile up. The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks pushed their record above the 500 mark with two wins at the Red Level tourney and win in their first game back after the holidays, and are once again a team that no one on their schedule looks forward to playing. The Lady Gamecocks may not be as talented as in years past, but they love to scratch and claw their way all over the court for all four quarters and always play to win.

The Zion Chapel Rebels will come out of the holiday break without a win on their side of the ledger, but the Rebels play as hard for all thirty-two minutes as any team around and it is just a matter of time before they ambush someone and start a winning streak. The Rebels will have to play their best for all four quarters to win. However, they have the ability to do just that and I for one think a win is just around the corner. Just watch! The Zion Chapel Lady Rebels are also winless heading into the new year, and like their counterparts, the Lady Rebels need to play hard for all four quarters and see what happens. The Zion Chapel girls will be underdogs every time they hit the court and know they aren't supposed to win, but they need to use that as a plus and surprise their opponents. Hey, sometimes even the best teams can fall into a trap.

\*\*\* New Alabama coach Mike Price didn't exactly win over many of his new Bama supporters last week when he told them to watch the Rose Bowl to see just what kind of football the Crimson Tide would play next season. Coach Price and his team got pounded in the Rose Bowl by Oklahoma and looked pretty bad on both offense and defense with all the Bama fans watching. He learned his lessons quickly, however, because after arriving in Tuscaloosa over the weekend the new Tide head man said he needed some coaches from the part of the country to help him learn what kind of football is played in the Southeastern Conference. Obviously someone got to the coach and made it clear that in the SEC it takes a running game and a defense to win on a weekly basis, and that his pass happy attack might need to get a second or third opinion. Any coach at any level is only as good as his assistants (just look at Auburn), and no matter what Coach Price may believe, unless he can lure some top notch assistant coaches to his staff, his stay at the Capstone may be short-lived. I am willing to give him a chance to prove himself, but so far all he has done is give his sons a job and say all the wrong things.

\*\*\* I really didn't care what team won the Fiesta Bowl and claimed the national title, but I thought that the interference call in the endzone in the first overtime was a bad call and cost Miami the championship. The official was in position to see the play and called the pass incomplete, only to change his mind and throw a flag that gave Ohio State a first down and led to a touchdown. After the late call it was clear that it was just Ohio State's year to win the national title, and the Buckeyes did just that. I know that Miami didn't play well enough to win and made a bunch of mistakes. However, the officials are there to call the game, not to win it or lose it for one of the teams. While on the subject of the Fiesta Bowl, I also must say that it is time for long time ABC announcer Keith Jackson to hang up his mic and retire. Jackson made countless mistakes throughout the game, whether it was describing a play or trying to get a name right after a play, and is just too slow to keep up with the pace of the game. His days of shouting "Whoo Nellie" are gone for good, and he should join Nellie and sit home and just watch.

\*\*\* In closing... The Bowl games are supposed to be in a money crisis due to less than filled stadiums and a lack of national excitement, but one thing for certain is that the TV networks have to be rolling in the dough. On the games I watched the average length of the games was well over three hours, and the time of possession for the commercials was way ahead of the time it took to actually play the game. I like to watch college football, but until the networks realize it is the game the people want to watch and not some hour long pregame show or a hundred commercials, the fans will do like me and find the clicker so we can change channels.

Enter new year with 1-6 record

## Elba Tigers hoping hard work will pay off

If the old saying "Hard work pays off" is really true, Elba Tiger basketball fans should see this week when they return to the court after nearly two weeks off.

"We have been working hard throughout the holidays to get better in every aspect of the game," stated Elba's Coach Karl Bledsoe, "and we are all looking forward to getting back on the court and playing winning basketball. We have spent many long hours in the gym working on fundamentals and trying to find our confidence, and I think the players believe they can win and want to move it to their opponents and their fans."

The beginning of the 2002-2003 high school basketball season has been anything but kind to the Elba program, as the Tigers stumbled-out of the gate to a 1-6 record, and closed the holiday season with a lopsided 84-43 loss to Barbour County, in the Dothan Progress/Dothan Eagle Prep Holiday Classic. Elba owned early leads in all six losses and jumped out to double-digit leads against both Enterprise and Samson, but managed to post its only win against winless Zion Chapel 64-54.

"We are all disappointed with our record," added Coach Bledsoe, in his third year at the Elba helm. "However, we are the only ones that can do something about it and we are looking to turn things around beginning this week. If we play hard for four quarters we can compete with any team on our schedule, and if we put four quarters together we can win. We have played well at times in

every game we have played, but haven't put together four good quarters in any game. We start two seniors that have been in the program for the past three years, and they need to step up and be leaders. It is hard to win with one sophomore and two freshmen in the starting line-up, but after seven varsity games it is time for them to step up and not back down from any opponent that we face. The players now realize that they are the team and no one feels sorry for them because they are young or lack experience. This is what we will have and that is what we will get to-war with the rest of the season. It is time to take that next step forward and play winning basketball for four quarters every night we take the court."

Through seven games the Tigers have been led in scoring by senior guard Kyle English with a 15 point average. English, an All-Tournament selection in the Dothan Progress/Dothan Eagle tournament, caught fire before the holiday break and connected on 11 three-pointers and averaged over 23 points a game in the Tigers' two losses in holiday tournaments. Sophomore forward Quinton Gavin has chipped in with 10 points a game, while freshman center Marchello Reed and senior forward Marcus Henderson have both scored 9 points a game in early-season action.

"There isn't a player on this team that doesn't know what it takes to win," said Coach Bledsoe, "and we are going to work hard in practice and play hard in games to break out of this losing spell and give our



Elba Tiger Head Coach Karl Bledsoe watches action during a recent Tiger game. Elba will return to the court Friday night against Abbeville and will host New Brockton on Tuesday night.

fans something to cheer about. We have key area games ahead ahead Abbeville and Straughn, and know we must play our best to win against these fine teams. The time has come to play well and I believe we are ready to do just that in the weeks to come."

### High School BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

**Thursday, January 9**  
Kinston at New Brockton (4:30) JV-VG-VB

**Friday, January 10**  
Elba at Abbeville (5:00) JV-VG-VB  
Kinston at Houston County (5:00) JV-VG-VB  
Samson at New Brockton (4:30) JV-VG-VB

**Tuesday, January 14**  
New Brockton at Elba (4:30) JV-VG-VB  
Zion Chapel at Kinston (4:30) JV-VG-VB

**Thursday, January 16**  
Elba at Straughn (4:30) JV-VG-VB  
Antion at Kinston (4:30) JV-VG-VB

### Huntingdon College will offer SuperSports Saturday January 18

Huntingdon College will offer its monthly adapted sports program, SuperSports Saturday, on Saturday, January 18, 2003. SuperSports welcomes children ages five through 18 who have physical disabilities. The program provides adapted sports in wheelchair football, wheelchair basketball, bocce, and other activities. The program is co-sponsored by a grant from the Lakeshore Foundation. A participation fee of \$10 includes lunch and a T-shirt. For more information, call the Huntingdon SuperSports Hotline at (334) 833-4298 or check the website at [www.huntingdon.edu/supersports](http://www.huntingdon.edu/supersports).

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Brooke Manning, age 6, recently found her first hunting trip to be a success as she bagged this spike deer which weighed in at 120 pounds. Brooke was able to get her deer with a little help from her Dad, Dennis.

### High School ROUNDBALL ROUNDUP

Kinston Bulldogs fall to Cottonwood 71-58

The Kinston Bulldogs hit the road Friday night for an area battle against the Cottonwood Bears and came home after absorbing a 71-58 loss. Chris Travick scored 22 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to lead the (3-6) Bears, while Dexter Williams added 20 points.

Lady Gamecocks roll past Goshen 53-47

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks improved their record to 7-6 Friday night with an exciting 53-47 win over the Goshen Lady Eagles, in New Brockton. Renita Lawson scored 16 points to lead New Brockton, while Rena Donaldson added 13 and Connie Brown scored 10. Lakesha Cope scored 17 points for Goshen.

Follow the bouncing ball each week right here in THE ELBA CLIPPER "SPORTS"

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# SPORTS

## Troy State to host pre-season high school baseball camp on Jan. 18-19 at new Trojan MVP center

Troy Baseball announces that registration is on-going for a winter baseball camp.

The Pre-Season High School Camp, will be held at the MVP Training Center, located in Troy, AL. This new 2200 square foot facility has two indoor cages, two pitching mounds and other

training areas. This facility also features a full size baseball field.

On January 18-19, 2003, the 1st Annual Pre-Season High School Camp will be conducted at the MVP Center. Troy State University Assistant Baseball Coach, Mark Smartt will be the

head instructor. TSU Pitching Coach Todd Lamberth, Garrett, as well as Ron Pierce, owner of Troy Baseball will provide additional instruction. This camp is for all high school players from the surrounding area and will be a great way to prepare for the upcoming high school season.

The day and half camp will be limited to the first 25 players to sign up.

To register, or for more information, please go to: [www.troybaseball.com](http://www.troybaseball.com) or call Ron Pierce at 334-670-9953.

Let's, Go...

## Outdoors with Ben

by Ben Norman, Sports Columnist



Don't Get Injured  
With That New  
Christmas Gift

Christmas morning was that magical day of the year that Alabama outdoor enthusiasts actually got their hands on that long awaited special gift that had been laying dormant under the Christmas tree for so many weeks.

This year Santa's wish list was endless, but new rifles, shotguns, tree stands, and camping equipment were in high demand. With these new possessions comes the responsibility of safe use for others and ourselves. These items are not necessarily inherently dangerous, but they can be made dangerous through careless and unskilled use.

Since the majority of firearm recipients at Christmas are in their teens or younger, adult supervision and training in the use of firearms and tree stand use is critical. Anyone who receives a 1977 must complete the Alabama Hunter Education Course before they can be issued a hunting license. Personnel from the Alabama Dept. of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries and volunteer instructors teach this course. The course covers many interesting subjects but major emphasis is placed on the safe use of firearms. All aspects of firearm safety are covered, from loading and unloading firearms to safe carry positions of a firearm. Adults who attend the course with youngsters usually enjoy the course as much or more than the youngsters.

Tree stands are another excellent hunting tool that provides deer hunters with a better viewing area and the ability to get above the normal scent line of deer. However, more hunters are injured from tree stand accidents each year than are injured from firearm accidents.

Before using that new tree stand on a hunt, get thoroughly familiar with it. Inspect it to make sure all bolts and retainers are included and you know where to place them. Attach a new tree stand to a tree and practice going up and down just a few feet above the ground until you are thoroughly familiar with the stand and feel confident enough to climb. Most tree stand accidents occur when ascending or descending the tree. Wearing a safety belt or harness will help prevent injuries from falls. Attach a climbing stand only to a tree of adequate diameter and avoid trees with very smooth bark as the climber may have a tendency to slip on the tree.

Hunter safety instructors recommend raising and lowering UNLOADED firearms with a small rope rather than trying to climb with the firearm slung over the shoulders. If one happens to fall, landing on a firearm can only make matters worse.

Did you or yours get a new camp stove or lantern for Christmas? Every year someone gets injured because they used the wrong type fuel or spilled fuel on their clothing and ignited it.

It takes only a few minutes to read directions and become familiar with our new outdoors gadgets that Santa left before using them. This way we can all be around to make up a new wish list for next Christmas.

For Hunter Education Course schedules call 1-800-245-2740

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Laura Hall inducted into National Honor Society

Laura D. Hall, of Elba, has been inducted into Phi Kappa Phi at Troy State University. Hall, a graduate student, is pursuing a Master's of business administration. Founded in 1897, the honor society of Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and largest honor society in the United States, and it recognizes superior academic achievement in all fields of study.

## 2002 Fall Semester Honor Roll announced by Lurlene B Wallace College

LBW College Interim President Jim Krudop has announced academic honor students for the 2002 Fall Semester. A total of twenty-nine students were named to the President's List and fifty-one students were named to the Dean's List. To qualify for these distinctions, students must be enrolled on a full-time basis and post a 3.50-3.99 (B+) grade point average to qualify for the Dean's List, and a 4.0 (A) grade point average to qualify for the President's List. The following local students received honors:

Selena Michelle Prescott of Brantley, AL was named to the President's List. Bryan Wesley Qualls of Elba and Mariah Ann Swidger of Kinston, AL, were named to the Dean's List. The following

## The Wiregrass Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH) group to meet January 20

The Wiregrass Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH) group will meet Thursday, January 20, 2003 from 7 - 8 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind, 111 Medical Drive, Dothan, Ala. The group is open to anyone who has hearing loss or has friends or family members with hearing loss. The goal of the group is to provide education about hearing loss, technology, and coping skills. For more information, please contact Jennifer Fanning at 334-677-6270.

## March 31 is deadline for Alabama farmers to file state gasoline tax refund claims

March 31 is the deadline for Alabama farmers to file their state gasoline tax refund claims with the Alabama Department of Revenue, according to State Commissioner of Revenue Cynthia Underwood. The refund claims are based on portions of the state excise tax paid by farmers on gasoline used during 2002 for agricultural purposes. The portion of the gasoline tax that can be refunded applies only to the amount of gasoline that is used in tractors or any auxiliary engines which may be attached to tractors. Gasoline used in farm trucks is not subject to refund. Farmers who qualify for such a refund are encouraged to submit their refund claims as soon as possible. The refund claim must be postmarked no later than March 31, 2003. Underwood explained, "Taxes on gasoline purchased from Jan. 1, 2002, through Dec. 31, 2002, will be refunded at the rate of 15 cents per gallon. The refund applies to the tax levied upon gasoline only; it does not apply to any tax levied upon diesel fuel. Any individual qualifying for a refund who has not received a 2002 claim form may obtain one by writing to the following address: Alabama Department of Revenue, Sales, Use and Business Tax Division, Motor Fuels Section, Post Office Box 327540, Montgomery, AL 36132-7540, or telephone (334)242-9608. Locally, forms are available at all county extension offices and all Alabama Department of Revenue Taxpayer Service Centers.

## Accidental 911 calls are a risk to public safety

For many people, a wireless telephone is a source of comfort, knowing that emergency help is as close as the phone's keypad is often a main reason for people to have wireless phones and to give them to their children. Unfortunately, between 25 percent and 70 percent of all wireless calls to 911 are accidental, by some estimates, and these calls clog up the phone lines at emergency call centers and even inhibit the dispatch of emergency services to those actually in need.

Accidental 911 calls can result from a consumer inadvertently pressing a key on his or her handset that is automatically programmed to reach 911 by way of speed dial. Many older wireless phones are equipped with this feature, and many came pre-programmed with the feature turned on.

In these pre-programmed handsets, holding down one key for a few seconds, generally the "9" — activates the speed dial. The older wireless phones with this feature, especially those with an open-faced design, might bump against an item in the user's purse or pocket, activating the automatic dial without the user even being aware that this is happening.

Accidental 911 calls, also known as unintentional 911 calls, pose a risk to public safety because an emergency call center must spend time and resources to determine whether the calls are truly emergencies or merely false alarms. Generally, a public safety operator will stay on the line, or will disconnect and try to call the caller back to verify any emergency. In either case, time that could be devoted to a true emergency is wasted, and a life could hang in the balance.

"Accidental 911 calls from wireless phones pose a risk to everyone's safety," according to K. Dane Snowden, Chief of the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB). "Through awareness and education, consumers, carriers, manufacturers, the government, and public safety groups can help to eliminate this problem."

Wireless phone users can prevent accidental 911 calls in several ways. Locking the keypad of a phone prevents accidental calls, as does turning off the automatic 911 feature — your user's manual will explain how. Also, one of the benefits of buying a newer handset is that very few of the newer phones have this feature, and if they do, the user has to activate it, so accidental 911 calls are infrequent with the later model handsets. The Federal Communications Commission is working with wireless handset manufacturers, wireless carriers, and public safety agencies such as the National Emergency Number Association (NENA), the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International, Inc. (APCO), and the National Association of State Nine One One Administrators (NASNA), to take steps to address the problem of accidental 911 calls.

As a result, wireless carriers, for example, have asked manufacturers either to turn off the 911 autodial feature before shipment of new handsets or not to offer the 911 autodial feature as an option at all. In fact, by January 1, 2003, all handsets certified by the Cellular Telecommunications and Internet Association — a trade association for the wireless industry — will not be factory programmed to dial 911.

In addition, many carriers have attempted to reduce the number of accidental 911 calls by providing their customers with educational information through inserts in their monthly bills, through direct mailings/newsletters, and through postings on their web sites. For further information, consumers may visit the Commission's CGB web site at [www.fcc.gov/cgb](http://www.fcc.gov/cgb). The site also contains links to related web sites that offer more facts and findings concerning the use of emergency numbers.

Randy Beach named to WCC Fall Term President's List

Randy Beach, a 2002 graduate of Elba High School, was named to the Wallace Community College's Fall Term President's List.

Beware of unlicensed heating & cooling contractors

Every day Alabamians are being cheated by more than 1,000 unlicensed heating and air conditioning contractors that's 1 out of 6 contractors who do not hold a license or are bonded to work in or around your home and/or business. It can end up costing thousands of dollars to get the job done right.

If a contractor is not licensed by the State Board of Heating and Air Conditioning Contractors it is illegal for him to repair, service or install heating and air conditioning units in Alabama.

The Board was created in 1982 to assist consumers and licensed contractors. Consumers should check with the Board to see if a contractor is licensed and bonded as required by state law before having a heating or air conditioning unit installed, repaired or serviced. It will only take a second to call their toll free number, 1-866-855-1912 to make sure a contractor rather than hiring an uncertified contractor who would leave you with leaking ceilings, wires everywhere, duct work installed incorrectly, no heating or air and no warranty. Please do not rely on a "friend" to install, service or repair either. The Board has had several instances where a "friend" installed a unit and left a mess behind. There is no recourse for the consumer unless they hire an attorney and still there is no certainty they will get relief.

It can become a life threatening matter if persons who are ill are left with no heat or air conditioning. Unfortunately, the elderly and those who are uninformed about installations are targeted.

Prevent being taken by an unlicensed contractor by being informed. Consumers have also been assisted by the Better Business Bureau. The Bureau regularly distributes the Board's telephone number.

Be sure to employ a licensed, bonded contractor who will give warranty as the Board cannot reimburse for money spent on installation, repair or service by an uncertified contractor.

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**AUCTION: THURSDAY**, January 16, 12:00 Noon. 12,220 Sq. Ft. +/- office/warehouse building at 1004 Hoke Avenue, Hueytown, AL. John Gardner A/S#1251, 1-205-933-2580.

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**LOTS FOR SALE**

**LOTS FOR SALE** ON COUNTY ROAD 364, Elba, just off Highway 87, 2.5 acres. Call 897-1685 or 334-308-7550. 12-19-03

**FOR RENT**

**FOR RENT** - 1 BR APARTMENT, New Carpet, New Paint, Central Heat & Air. REGENCY APARTMENTS. Call 897-2994. 1-9-03

**PROPERTY FOR SALE**

**FACTORY** for sale or lease by owner in Prattville, 23,508 Sq. Ft. on 2 acres. \$350,000. 1-972-633-5001.

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**FOR SALE** - 1989 Mobile Home - 3 BR, 2 B, 1 Bath. Call 897-3939. 1-9-03

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**For Sale**

**BRICK, 3 BR, 2 Bath HOUSE** Located at 1564 Highland Drive Elba, AL

Call 334-897-5337

**3 BR, 1 BATH, W / 1 Acre** Large Barn, Chain Link Yard. 8 Miles From Elba on County Rd. 349. Call 334-527-0646. 1-2-03

**HOME FOR SALE BY OWNER** 1,500 sq ft brick veneer, 3 BR, 2 Bath, single garage, FP w/gas logs, MB w/WP tub & WI shower. 2.4 acre lot, in city limits. Additional acreage available, if desired. 897-3254 after 5 pm. 12-5-tfc

**HOUSE FOR SALE - 3 BR, 1 Bath** With Double Carport, With a 24X24 Shop. Call 898-3907. 1-9-03

**NEW BRICK HOME - 3 BR - 2 Baths**. Apply Today For \$79,500 Loan - \$ 575/ for 30 Yrs. - Payments App. \$465/Mo. Call RUSSELL CONSTRUCTION 334-897-6540. 12-12-tfc

**HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER** 3 BR, 2 Bath, Vinyl Siding, 1 Acre Land. Located on Co. Rd. 404, Elba. Call 897-5808. 8-15-tfc

**C & J REALTY**

**3 BR, 2 Bath, In-Ground Pool**, Marlyn St., across from entrance to school. \*\*\*\*\*

**Homesites** for sale. Co. Rd. 235

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**Broker-Diane Vignola** 897-2928 897-5948

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**FOR SALE**

**COUNTRY HOME REDUCED**

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**LAND HIGH & DRY**

Contact Jimmie Dean, Cell Phone 727-458-9884 For a Packet.

**DECEASED.**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Take notice that Letters Testamentary, were granted to Grace W. Stevens, as Executrix of the Estate of SIDNEY STEVENS, deceased, on the 30th day of December, 2002, by the Judge of Probate for Coffee County, Alabama.

Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

s/Grace W. Stevens  
Personal Representative  
1-2-9-16 pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: GLENN M. ROBERTS CASE NO. PC-02-69

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY EXECUTOR

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to GLENN A. ROBERTS, on the 2nd day of January, 2003, by the Hon. William Gammill, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

s/GLENN M. ROBERTS  
Personal Representative  
1/9, 16, 23 chg.

ESTATE OF

W. Youngblood DECEASED

PROBATE COURT PC-02-66

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned 31st day of December, 2002, by the Hon. William G. Gammill, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

s/Betty J. Youngblood  
Personal Representative  
1/9, 16, 23 pd.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

ELBA DIVISION

CASE NO: PC-02-71

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF SIDNEY STEVENS,

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY EXECUTOR

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to GLENN A. ROBERTS, on the 2nd day of January, 2003, by the Hon. William Gammill, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

s/Grace W. Stevens  
Personal Representative  
1-2-9-16 pd

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

ELBA DIVISION

CASE NO: PC-02-71



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2002 S-10 BLAZER LS pkg - AT-6 - only 16K miles



2000 LINCOLN TOWN CAR - Signature Series - one owner - like new - MUST SEE



1999 FORD EXPLORER XLT - Power windows &amp; locks - tilt - cruise, AM-FM CD player



2001 CHEV EX CAB - 4 X 2 AT-8 - only 19K miles - like new



2000 F-250 SUPERCAB XLT 2w drive - v-10 automatic - local trade



1998 NISSAN - reg cab - AT-4



11998 S-10 SPORTSIDE - rg cab - 4 X 2 - AT-4



2002 2500 CHEV 2500HD - crew cab - AT-8 4X2 - must see



2002 VW BEETLE - AT - leather - sunroof - only 14,000 miles



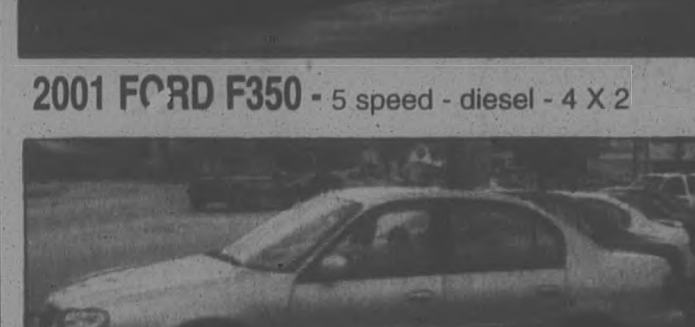
2001 FORD F350 - 5 speed - diesel - 4 X 2



2001 CHEV PICK UP LS - reg cab - 4X2 - sharp - one owner - AT-8



2000 CHEV. MALIBU LS - local trade - leather - sun roof - loaded



2002 CHEVY MALIBU LS - program car



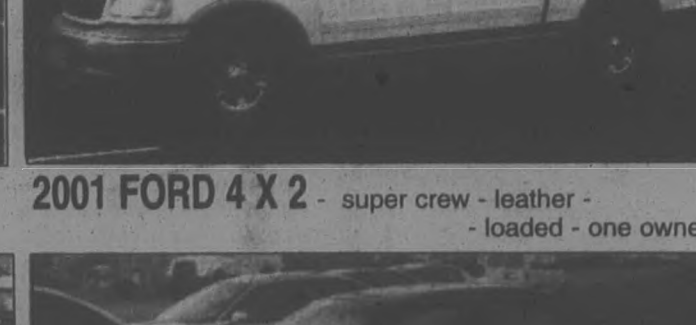
2001 FORD 4 X 2 - super crew - leather - loaded - one owner



2000 FORD EXPEDITION XLT - 3rd seat - rear air - power windows - tilt - cruise



2002 CHEV TRAIL BLAZER LS - one owner - like new



1999 BUICK REGAL LS - leather - loaded - extra clean - great buy



1999 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SPORT - one owner



1990 FORD BRONCO - Eddie Bauer - hunter special



2001 S-10 CREW CAB - 4 X 4 - one owner - like new - AT-6



2001 CAMRY LE sharp car - only 31,000 miles

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selection

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Bradley Wilson  
gets 12-point  
buck during  
hunting trip

# The Elba Clipper

Volume 106, Number 31

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, January 16, 2003

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

## City of Elba ready to accept applications for license to sell alcoholic beverages

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council meeting Monday evening was business as usual with the exception that City Clerk Wayne Grantham announced that the city of Elba is now ready to start accepting applications for license to sell alcoholic beverages.

Grantham explained that it took a while for city officials to learn the procedures themselves, but they are now ready to accept the application and to assist citizens in their quest to acquire the necessary state and municipal permits.

He suggested that applicants first apply with the Alabama ABC Board and when that has been accepted, then apply with the city. Grantham added that if a potential applicant is not familiar with the procedure, they can come by city hall and get a hand out with a list of items needed before going to the ABC office in Dothan. He said citizens could also get an educated guess on exactly how long the application process will take.

Grantham also said the ABC

office will handle application submissions by appointment only. The phone number in Dothan is 334-792-9155 and the contact person is Lisa Honea. The office is located at 325 N. Gates, St. Suite 7 (P.O. Box 1612), Dothan AL 36302.

The council approved a request to hold a public hearing on a proposal to close John Street, which is a short platted, but heretofore undeveloped, street off Winston St. The petition for the closure was signed by all abutting land owners. Advertising for that hearing begins in this issue of The Elba Clipper, as required by state law.

Monthly bills totaling \$12,567.85 were approved for payment. The two major accounts were \$2,364.46 for vehicle and equipment repairs and maintenance plus \$3,672.21 for purchase of rock and pipe.

Police Chief R. W. Whitworth

reported that a long time

dispatcher has retired, two police

officers have resigned, another

suffered a broken hand trying to

stop a domestic dispute, and a

fourth officer is on military

leave for an undetermined

amount of time.

## During Coffee County Commission meeting Purchase order mishaps explained

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Coffee County Commissioners found several department heads to be less than happy Monday morning, Jan. 13, as they attended the regular monthly meeting of the commission to discuss purchase order compliance.

Revenue Commissioner Ronnie Burns was the first to speak to commissioners, and he expressed his disappointment of learning about the situation from a newspaper article rather than the commission office.

The items, in question concerned materials ordered or received by the particular county departments without first obtaining a purchase order.

During the last commission meeting, county administrator Wilson Mobley said it has been the rule of the county to acquire a purchase order number before ordering the materials. He said this helps keep the budget on line.

However, Mobley pointed out several items that were purchased by several departments without getting the purchase order number first.

Burns said his invoice involved a \$205 purchase of filters and ammonia for a machine at the mapping and appraisals office. He said the truth of the matter in this case was that the employee actually saved the county \$50 by waiting to get the purchase order number until after the material was delivered. A shipping fee was avoided on the ammonia which is a hazardous material and expensive to ship.

Burns said the employee did not get the purchase order because she did not know the total cost until the materials were delivered. However, Mobley said the employee could have gotten the purchase order without knowing the amount.

"My employees didn't know they could get a purchase order number without the price," Revenue Commissioner Ronnie Burns said. "She wasn't trying to hide anything... just trying to save the county some money."

He continued by indicating that other department heads had said they also did not know a purchase order number could be obtained without the price, and in that respect he said he felt there is a lack of communication between the commission office and the county departments.

Coffee County Sheriff Ben Moates was next to address the commission and began by saying, "This is a little bit of a sore subject because I felt it could be discussed in a different manner."

His items up for discussion included a towing fee, radio purchase and business cards.

"I don't know if commissioners are responsible for getting

purchase order numbers, but I expect you two would make a mistake over time."

Coffee County Jail administrator Zack Ennis also had a couple of things to be discussed, and he took a different approach to things.

With the first item, he said his

department apparently just failed to get a purchase order number, and he would take care of the cost if necessary.

As for the other item, he said the county was in the process of changing suppliers when the materials were purchased and the delivery time was one of those unavoidable after hours situations.

"I commend you for this and think you should stay on top of this, but we are humans and there are going to be mistakes," Ennis said.

With that said, Commissioner Roberts Stephens said these three department heads were nice enough to come and explain the purchases, therefore, he made a motion with a second that the county pay those bills since the department heads came to the meeting to offer an explanation. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

To close out the discussion, Mobley said, "If it's something

Whitworth also told council members that the new 60 kw back-up generator for the police department has been installed and will soon be operational. He also reported the receipt of six portable radios from a Management Agency grant.

Council members were given a copy of annual activity reports for the police officers and for the animal control officer.

Police officers logged 207,457 miles during the year and answered 14,373 calls for service. During this time span they made 1441 traffic arrests, issued 2561 traffic warnings and made 432 criminal arrests. Those arrests included 31 for DUI and 61 for drug law violations.

The animal control officer picked up 588 dogs, one pig and assisted residents with disposing of 27 cats.

Mayor James Grimes told council members that the street resurfacing project should resume soon, weather permitting. He also reported the levee rehab work was moving along fairly well.

## Coffee County jail inmates flush more than paper

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Coffee County Commissioners found themselves searching once again Monday, Jan. 13, for answers to continued sewer troubles at the Coffee County Jail.

Throughout the last few weeks, the county jail has experienced an overwhelming amount of trouble with its drainage system, and commissioners were filled with questions Monday morning during their regular bimonthly meeting.

County maintenance supervisor Phil Rugg and jail administrator Zack Ennis discussed the problem with commissioners, and Rugg provided photographs of the source of the problem.

He said jail inmates were taking mattresses and linens from their beds and flushing them down the toilet. This

eventually caused a backup with the sewage as the materials made their way to the pump system and stopped it up.

Rugg said not only is it expensive for the county to replace the pump every time it is destroyed by the materials, but the amount of money the county has been forced to pay in employee overtime has been outstandingly high lately.

Commissioner Jim Thompson said it seems as though the county has a problem that needs immediate attention in finding a remedy.

"I would hate for Coffee County to go broke because we are spending money every week to fix sewer problems," Thompson said. "I think who ever is doing this should be punished."

Ennis said it if often hard to catch those responsible for the problem considering there is generally only three correction

officers on duty to watch the more than 100 inmates at any given time. Also, he said the fact that cameras are not allowed in the bathroom area of the jail adds to the problem of finding who is responsible.

"We have 50 toilets at the jail, and there is no way to monitor what goes in and out of every one," Ennis said.

However, he did say that any inmate caught flushing such materials down the toilet would lose his/her inmate privileges at the jail. He added that this often proves more effective than trying to charge the inmate with a misdemeanor crime and going through the court system to recover the loss.

From a maintenance point of view, Rugg said the county can put a pump in that will pump the materials through; however, this will cause a problem down at the end of the line. He

said this would eventually cause a problem for others, and he did not think the county wanted to do such a thing. Instead, he said he will continue to work to try and find a solution.

In the mean time, Ennis suggested holding a workshop to discuss various things the county can do better in an attempt to try and solve the problem.

"Coffee County is not the only one with this problem," he said. "Every jail deals with things like this."

With that in mind, Ennis said he will check with other county jails to get ideas of how they deal with such troubles. Commissioners agreed that a workshop would be a good idea and asked Ennis and Rugg search for solutions to this problem in an attempt to keep additional county money from going down the drain.

## Coffee County BOE proceeds with list of capital projects

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Once again, capital projects took center stage at the regular monthly meeting of the Coffee County Board of Education Thursday evening, Jan. 9, as board members prepared to step forward with some of the proposed projects.

Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram told board members that the architect has plans ready for the interior work planned at

Zion Chapel Elementary School. She also said there has been interest in acquiring an air conditioning for the New Brockton High School auditorium, as well as, upgrading the air conditioning system in the auditorium at Kingston.

Other projects discussed included a covered walkway at Zion Chapel Elementary School and outside work to the facade of the school buildings where the weather has caused some

wear and tear over the years. Before proceeding, board members placed the capital projects in a priority order of what needs to be done first with the funds the school system has for such projects.

The Zion Chapel interior project remained at the top of the list with the air conditioning projects at New Brockton and Kingston coming next. Then, board members felt the facade of the buildings should be the next project with the canopy at Zion Chapel following it.

Ingram said she would like to go ahead and proceed with the projects; therefore, she asked for permission from board members to contact the architect to proceed with drawing up plans for mentioned projects so bids can be sent out for each.

"I would also like to mention that we're proceeding on the Zion Chapel ball field," Ingram said. "We're making every dollar we've got go as far as we can."

As of last week, she said the Zion Chapel Athletic Club was working on putting up the concrete dugouts at the field. Also, she said work was in progress on the concession stand bathroom.

In other business, the board: \* Approved a motion to prepare bids for three new school buses in which Ingram said the school has fleet renewal money

to cover the cost of the buses.

\* Approved a motion to revise Board Policy EDFA which now allows the school system to pay bus drivers at least minimum wage for field trips.

\* Received a request to revise Board Policy BC. This policy deals with board meetings, and Ingram said the board had received a request to change the monthly meeting time from 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month. Board members will vote on the proposed policy change during the February meeting.

Before adjourning for the evening, a couple of presentations were made with one singling out board member Annette Griswold and the other recognizing all seven board members.

Griswold was recently recognized along with other board members by the Alabama Association of School Boards' School Board Academy for advancing to Level One in the Academy.

As for the other board members, Ingram recognized the group as a whole in celebration of National School Board Month. The superintendent thanked each board member for his/her dedication to the students of Coffee County and presented them with a few keepsakes.



ELBA LEVEE REHAB work continues with a major cutting of the existing levee and the lowering of this storm drain pipe by several feet due to the planned installation of a holding pond. This site is behind the old Elba High School gym. There was an existing storm drain through the levee at this location, but to allow for the storm water holding pond, it had to be removed and a new pipe installed at a lower level.

Elba city officials have long range plans of installing another pumping system, as is now installed and working in the old Beaver Dam Creek bed, just off Putnam Street. Such a pump is necessary to lift the storm water up and over the levee during times when Pea River and Whitewater Creek levels rise above the elevation of these drain pipes and they are automatically closed to prevent river water from back flowing inside the levee.

Please See CCC, Page 3